

Town of Hampton



*Department of Resources and
Economic Development*



**Hampton Beach Area Commission
100 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842
Hampton Police Station – 2nd Floor Training Room
7 PM**

March 23, 2011

MINUTES

In Attendance:

John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton
Fran McMahon- Rockingham Planning Commission
Bob Preston- Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Deputy Richard Sawyer, Citizen at Large
Michael Roy, Village District
Michael Housman, Operations Supervisor, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Recreation)
Bill Watson, Vice Chairman - NH Department of Transportation
Rick Griffin, Town Selectmen

Absent: Geannina Guzman-Scanlan-Hampton Beach Village District
James Steffen – Town Planner

Other:

Laurie Olivier- Secretary

1. Introduction of Commissioners

Mr. Nyhan introduced the members of the Commission.

2. Review & approval of 02/24/11 Minutes

Mr. Nyhan stated that two corrections made as were brought to his attention by Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson is the Commission's Vice Chair., and on Page 3 regarding the RSA vote, it showed a vote of 7 – 0 – 0; it should have been 5 – 0 – 2 with Mr. Housman and Mr. Watson abstaining.

MOTION by Mr. McMahon to approve the February 24, 2011 Minutes.

SECOND by Mr. Watson.

VOTE: 8 – 0 – 0

MOTION PASSED.

Appointments –

a) Hampton Beach State Park – Redevelopment Project Update Report – Harvey Construction

Friends from the State and Harvey Construction appeared. They will be available after the presentation to answer any questions. Mr. Larry Saari, Senior Project Manager, appeared with Mr. Conte. He stated that things are going well. Two bath houses are substantially complete. They have Certificates of Occupancy. They will be operational in early April. April 15th is the plan per Mr. Housman. He stated that the south promenade concrete work is almost done. Working on benches and shade structures were discussed. The sunfish will go up by the end of the month. By the end of April, they will need to finish the final paving. The DOT knows no paving will commence until the temperatures are 50 degrees and rising. Paving may be done by mid-May. The south promenade should be completed by early June and usable by the summer season.

Mr. Saari stated that not as much work is needed on the north promenade. Weather permitting, the north promenade should be substantially complete by the end of the summer.

Bathrooms will be completed for the summer. All four buildings will be complete. The sidewalk along the buildings should be complete as well. They will be working in the seashell area through the summer. Mr. Nyhan asked about the fenced-in area.

Bill Conte discussed the construction access. Trailers and material areas were shown. The fence will be moved along as the area is worked on.

Mr. Saari stated both the north and south areas will be open by June 15th; that is the target date, but it may be earlier than that.

Mr. Nyhan commented that they have done an outstanding job thus far.

b) Maureen Buckley – Re: Hampton Beach Village District Upcoming Elections

Mr. Nyhan introduced Maureen Buckley. She is running for Precinct Commissioner. She taught in the Woburn school system. She discussed her experience and Boards she has served on. Parks and Recreation involvement was discussed by Ms. Buckley. She discussed financial support. She wants to assist with the Chamber, Town, and Precinct and work with our Commission. She would like everybody to vote on March 25th.

Mr. Nyhan also received a letter from a Bruce Theriault who would like to be considered for the position. Mr. Nyhan read his letter which gave Mr. Theriault's background experience and work experience. His history in New Hampshire was discussed. Extending the season was mentioned in his letter. Having more attractive buildings on the seashore was a part of his letter. Noon to 5:00 is the date to vote at the fire station.

3. Public comment

5. Old Business

A. Additional Beach Redevelopment Project updates (Housman)

Mr. Housman stated that he plans on opening the bath houses on April 15th. He discussed plans for operating by mid-June. He is expecting a good season. Mr. Nyhan asked about the State Park. He asked for quick update on the little discs that were on the beach. Mr. Housman stated that the Town of Hooksett got some help from the outside for clean-up. Equipment was up

and running and cleaning up has been occurring. It is now all manual clean-up. It's going to be ongoing. Things may be washing up for a while now. He stated people should use proper hygiene in cleaning up the discs on the beach. Do not use bare hands if cleaning up. There are low levels as far as bacteria goes. Four to eight million discs were discharged.

Mr. Sawyer stated the Blue Ocean Group stands out as being helpful with 30 + volunteers and also the Strafford County Volunteer Group. A couple hundred thousand of the discs were cleaned up.

Mr. Nyhan stated that a PR note will be sent out regarding the bath houses.

(1) Temporary Stage Task Group Update (Preston)

Mr. Preston discussed working on the stage and getting sponsors to help defray increased costs. The State is giving \$15,000. We are looking at picking up sponsorships and hopefully reimburse the Precinct. We are looking for a primary sponsor to hopefully obtain \$5,000. We are open to suggestions. We have picked up seven weekly sponsors. They are going to pay \$500 to be a sponsor for the week. Mike Roy at Roy Family Hotels, Sea Ketch, Coca Cola, and Preston Real Estate to name a few. He mentioned others he is going to ask, like the Mounted Patrol. Anyone who wants to be a sponsor should call him.

Mr. Nyhan stated we are hoping for 12 weeks of sponsorships. He has been working with Mr. Preston and there are still a couple of contacts to make for the large sponsor. There will be more to report at the April meeting. Chuck Rage has also assisted in this.

B. Beach Project/NH Arts Council updates (Guzman-Scanlan)

Ms. Guzman-Scanlan forwarded Mr. Nyhan an email stating that she is very sick. She does not have anything to report for the NH Arts Council and for new business in the Master Plan, she will have to do updates next month.

C. Ocean Blvd Reconstruction Project (Watson)

Mr. Nyhan stated that he had a meeting with the DES. Mr. Watson discussed the challenges to Ocean Blvd regarding the drainage permitting, and the DES held true to its commitment. Permitting processes were discussed. He discussed a good turnout. It was left with information gathering, more details regarding construction plans, drainage and catch basin outlet information. More research to find pitfalls was discussed.

Mr. Roy stated a lot of people from DES appeared. He discussed contentions. The project does have hope to rebuild the Ocean Blvd.

Mr. Griffin discussed the marsh area to the forefront. Winnacunnet Road is the boundary for the marsh. The whole area has been impacted by the road bend.

Mr. Nyhan discussed that after the meeting there was a discussion that centered around Little Jacks. He felt it was a maintenance issue more than a funding issue. He feels if people can agree, people can fix this without a whole lot of cost and time. He feels the DES may be able to move quickly on this. He brought this to Senator Stiles. She indicated that she would be interested to support the Town of Hampton and she would get the Commissioner of DES to have a meeting with the DES and DOT to find out once and for all why a permit can't be obtained to get this job done. He is waiting for call from Senator Stiles regarding meeting plan and time to address the Little Jack's area. Mr. Preston was impressed to see all the State government and town officials all together trying to make resolutions.

D. Town's Infrastructure Project – seven street sewage update

Mr. Nyhan discussed meetings with Senator Judd Gregg's office. He discussed funds he wanted to get were from funds from HUD which Congress voted down. His \$1.2 Million proposal was within that pool of money. Mrs. Stiles brought everyone together and discussed how to get money from federal government. The meeting will be on April 8th at 11:00 at Senator Shaheen's office in Dover. There will also be staff from Congressman Guinta's office and staff from Kelly Ayotte's office. The whole staff team will be there to hear us plead our case to come up with how to get \$1.3 Million to finish the project. Mr. Nyhan is still cautious, but encouraged, by all three offices meeting together. He hopes to have more news after the April 8th meeting.

E. Results – Special HBAC Meeting on DRED's 2011 fees

Mr. Nyhan discussed the confusion on event fees, etc. He reported that the meeting which had great attendance went very well. Commissioner Bald was there. He wished the best to Commissioner Bald as Mr. Bald's mother passed away this past week. He explained the fees and filling out applications and did a great job on explaining this. Gary Bashline is the interim supervisor. He thanked everyone at DRED and local community.

F. Any other Old Business – Commissioner Project Reports

6. New Business

A. Beach Master Plan Presentation – (G. Guzman-Scanlan)

Mr. Nyhan stated this is postponed until next month. He also postponed the economic strategy session.

B. Economic Development Strategies- Postponed to April

C. Any other New Business

Mr. Nyhan received a letter from Cliff Sinnott asking the Board to support the project. Mr. McMahon discussed the Planning Commission doing the Route 1 Corridor study. One project identified was the Route 1 / 101 interchange and to look at reconstructing the interchange including the public transit component. Potential service to the west and to the Manchester Airport along with running a shuttle service to the beach during the summer was discussed by Mr. McMahon. They also looked at the Coach bus service.

The Planning Commission, as of February 28th, made application, the piece on 101 Interchange and they have submitted an application to Shelley Winters. One component in the study is the advisory committee per Mr. McMahon. One member would be from this Board. Mr. McMahon thinks it is an important aspect for the Beach and Town, that is, getting a transportation hub at that location. It could help the businesses in downtown as well as to the Beach.

MOTION by Mr. McMahon to send a letter to Shelley Winters.

SECOND by Mr. Sawyer.

VOTE: 8 – 0 – 0

MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Nyhan added that the Commission, with the increase in tourism, etc., would need a remote parking area. The 10-year study was discussed. He discussed the grant application. He is

on the agenda to Monday's Board of Selectmen meeting. The Board of Selectmen voted to endorse this. Mr. Nyhan will write the letter if wished.

ALL WERE IN FAVOR. Mr. Nyhan will take care of it and will do a letter.

Mr. Nyhan added the PS: - Shawn Thomas from Representative Guinta's office stopped in to say "hello". Cliff Sinnott told Mr. Thomas to head to Hampton beach to check out the work. The beach project may be put on the agenda. An Economic Development tour date possible for late April was discussed. To have people in Washington see this project would be great. And seeking economic funds would be great.

Mr. Preston discussed junk in some yards now that the snow is melting. Harvey is doing a great job cleaning up the Boulevard. He discussed getting neighbors to help clean up. Mr. Griffin stated it's all along the boulevard.

8. Adjourn

MOVED by Mr. Nyhan to adjourn.

SECOND by Mr. McMahon.

VOTE: 8 – 0 – 0

MOTION PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Laurie Olivier
Secretary